the CHITIMACHA NEWSLETTER

"SOVEREIGN NATION OF THE CHITIMACHA"

May 1996

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NEWS*LETTER*
EDITOR
Ted M. Darden

SPECIAL
CONSULTANT
Allan VonWerder

Chitimacha Tribal Court Has First Jury Trial

...maintaining the inherent Right of Sovereignty.....

Members of the First Jury Panel: l to r, (front row) Elda Mora Talley, Tara Elizabeth Ducote, Sheila Ann Bobbitt; (back row) William August Mora, Jr., Joey Andrew LeBlanc and Burton Paul Broussard.

The Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana in choosing to maintain their inherent sovereignty has provided a method within the Chitimacha Comprehensive Codes of Justice for resolving disputes through the use of the Court system and Civil Jury Trial system. In accordance with same, Monday, April 15, 1996, marked yet another historic moment for the Chitimacha Nation, at which time, the first jury trial was conducted in the Chitimacha Tribal Court on Tribal lands, with the Honorable Cameron B. Simmons as the presiding judge. This was a Civil Tort action (suit for personal injuries and damages), initiated by the plaintiffs for injuries sustained as a result of an incident occurring in the Cypress Bayou Casino on July 4, 1994.

As provided under Tribal law, an eligible juror is defined as " a tribal member who is at least 18 years of age; is of sound mind and discretion; has never been convicted of a felony; is not a member of the Tribal Council; or a judge, officer or employee of the Court, or an employee of the Police Department or jail. The jury selection process begins with the random drawing of potential jurors from all enrolled tribal members 18 and over, which for this specific trial, seventy-five where chosen. Each potential juror is served with a subpoena, juror questionnaire to be completed and returned to the Court and a exemption request form which can be completed and returned for the Court's consideration. Grounds for exemption from jury duty include; residing more than fifty (50) miles from the reservation; being a person of advanced age, infirmity or illness; jury service would cause extraordinary hardship, however, unless a potential juror is granted a formal exemption, they must appear as summoned. Any person who fails to appear, unless formally exempted, shall be summoned to appear before the Court for Contempt.

(See Jury Trial, Page 9)

Human Services Department
Trash Bash '96

I am pleased to let everyone know that the First Annual Trash Bash was a great success. 42 community members arrived to help clean up the Reservation. The group of volunteers were able to clean the ditches and roads of the reservation and were also able to clean up the empty lots behind the school.

In addition to the volunteers, I would also like to extend extra thanks to the following groups or people who help make the trash bash a success. Thank You to the Joy Johnson, Pam Toups and all of the staff of the Trading Post for the delicious doughnuts and cinnamon rolls. Thank You to Anita Cook and Cook Refrigeration for the ice cold soft drinks and delivering them to the volunteers so that no one would go thirsty. Thank You to the Chitimacha Maintance Department for providing the dumpster, truck, trailer and personel to help the volunteers dispose of the garbage we collected. Thank you to Officer Steve Gentry and the Chitimacha Police Department for insuring the safefy of the volunteers while they were walking along the streets picking up garbage. Thank you to Baldwin Police Ronald Pinell for assisting Officer Gentry in traffic control.

I would also like to extend a gratious thank you to all of the community members who were out early on a Saturday morning cleaning their own yards and helping to make the Reservation a beautiful place.

And a final and heartfelt thanks to the following groups and people who actually gave up their Saturday morning to help cleanup the Reservation:

Ralph Darden	Rebecca Marcotte	DarleneToups
Tony Soprano	Kevin Hebert	Beth Toups
Ardith Soprano	Kyle Hebert	Todd Toups
Lacey Soprano	Jenesse Dwyer	Rachel Vilcan
Carlie Soprano	Amy Darden	Lon Burgess
Ashley Burgess	April Cook	Marty Burgess
Gerald Ecuer	Shannon Cook	Bret Burgess
Natalie Vilcan	Oneil Darden	Jessie Burgess
Tessa Darden	Tony Darden	Zak LeBlanc
Kenszala Perry	Dwayne Darden	Ben Darden
Jacob Darden	Roy Dwyer	Blaise Darden
Jonathan Marcotte	Joshua Vilcan	Jarred Anslum
Jenna Marcotte	Morgan Martin	Brandt Johnson
Karial Perry	Kenneth Perry	Jeremy

I hope that everyone was as happy as I was with the results of the Trash Bash. Please express your gratitude to all of the people and groups that help make Trash Bash '96 a success.

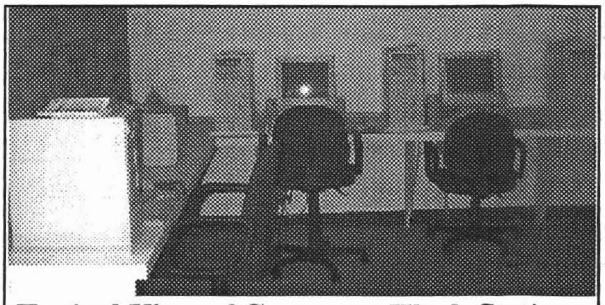
Thank You to everyone whom I metioned and if I did leave anyone off the lists I do appoligize and did not intentionally mean to slight anyone.

Michael P. Forsythe

Baseball/Softball Clinic

On Monday, April 29, 1996 several of our tribal youth had the opportunity to participate in a baseball and softball clinic sponsored by the Human Services Department that was conducted by the USL Athletic Department. The youth were taken to the USL ball fields where they were given a practical clinic by the coaching staff and members of the Nationally ranked Lady Cajun Softball Team and the Ragin Cajun Baseball Team. The youth were taught key skills that will improve their ball games. The kids were very excited about the opportunity and found the experience very educational.

Education Department
Good News in Education!!!



Typical View of Computer Work Stations at Tribal School Media Center

The Chitimacha Tribal School OPEN HOUSE, held Saturday, April 20, was great success! Community leaders,parents, students, and other guests took advantage of the opportunity to view the technology now available to them at the new Library/Media Center. Students demonstrated many of the new multimedia programs that will enhance their learning experiences as well as those available to the Chitimacha Community at large. Among the many programs are word processing, general reference materials, subject-orientated materials (reading, math, social studies and science), life skills materials (Adult Basic Education and Pre-GED), and the myriad of

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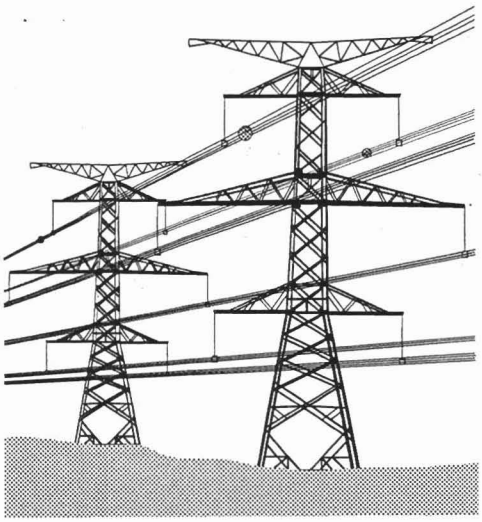
Public Works Department
By: Tony Darden, Director



Sewer

I would like to update everyone on what is happening with the sewer. Early this month, we had a contractor to come out and clean the lines, and also, to video the lines to see what shape they are in. At this time, we are waiting for the results of his findings.

Help Wanted

If you are interested in a summer job, please call the Public Works Dept. at 923-9125.

Reminder

If you have any waste oil to dispose of Please bring it by the shop when Patrick is there and he will assist you with it.

The Public Works Department covers the following areas:

Facilities Maintenance - Tribal Buildings Maintenance and upkeep, Park and Grounds maintenance, Tribal Equipment Maintenance

Land Management - Development, Lot Use Agreements, Lot Leasing, Care and Upkeep, Surveying, Mapping
Roads - Roadside Maintenance, Drainage, Development.

Sewer Operations -Collection lines, Plant Operation and Maintenance, Permit & Discharge Compliance, New construction

Utility Services - Gas, water, electricity, phone lines, right-of-ways

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
You can reach our department at 923-9125 or in case of an emergency after hours, please call 828-6708.

Housing News:
By: Marilyn Burgess

Application For New Homes:

I attended a pre-application meeting in Oklahoma City last week for another phase of houses. We are now trying to complete an application package which has to be in HUD's office by May 13, 1996. We will be applying for Mutual Help Homes and low rent housing for the elderly and single persons.

I am stressing the importance to anyone who is interested in housing, to please come by the office and pick up an application so that you can be included in this year's application.

Health Department Monthly Reminders

Personal Insurance

Clients with personal insurance must keep the Health Department informed of changes in insurance coverage. Remember to bring your insurance explanation of benefits to the CMC office. We need a copy to determine the balance owed on your medical bills. Also please provide information to your doctor, hospital, dentist, etc. as to where to file your insurance.

Medical Bills/Statements

Some medical bills are not sent to the Health Department by the provider. They are billed directly to your residence. It is your responsibility to bring those bills to the Health Department. For example, when you have an x-ray done at the hospital, you will receive another bill for the radiology fees. You must bring those in as soon as you receive them.

Medicaid Clients

The Health Department requires a copy of your Medicaid card each month. Bring in any correspondence you receive from the Office of Family Support concerning your Medicaid case. Because Medicaid is an alternate resource, please remember that you must use doctors who will accept the Medicaid card. If you have a problem with finding a doctor who accepts the card, please call our office for assistance.

Insurance Claims

The Health Dept. will be filing claims to your insurance company for pharmacy charges on a quarterly basis. Please bring any checks and correspondence from your insurance company to the CMC Office. The checks are a reimbursement to the Health Program for charges previously paid by the program and will be put back into the program.

REMINDER!!!
Report any address changes to the Health Department.

Environmental Health
By: Lou Martin

Baseball season has began. In the afternoons after school, many children are riding bikes or walking to and from baseball practice. Please let's be careful when driving and watch out for the children.

1996 MISS CHITIMACHA NATION AND MISS JUNIOR CHITIMACHA NATION PAGEANT

Sunday, June 9, 1996

A pageant will be held in order to choose two female role models to represent the Tribe at various Chitimacha and intertribal events and functions

RULES

- Must be a member of the Chitimacha Tribe
- Miss Chitimacha Nation contestants must be 17-21 years of age
- Miss Junior Chitimacha Nation must be 14-16 years of age
- Must be single, never married with no children
- Must be in traditional Chitimacha regalia/ dress
- Must attend two orientation sessions about the pageant, their role and responsibilities

JUDGING CRITERIA

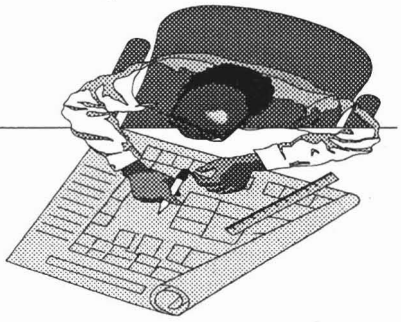
- Chitimacha traditional regalia/ dress
- Knowledge of tribal history, traditional values, principles, customs, and traditions
- Some knowledge about the history of Indian peoples in this country and issues affecting Indian people past and present
- Answers to personal view questions
- Poise and presentation
- School academic standing
- Extra curricular activities and hobbies
- Ability to promote Indian America and reflect goodwill

The Chitimacha Cultural and Historical Research and Development Department will assist contestant preparation. This will be a good learning experience for all those who participate. We extend a warm, enthusiastic invitation and welcome.

All entry forms will be accepted after the April 30th deadline. Entry forms can be obtained by calling the Cultural and Historical Research and Development Department at 923-4395 or 923-9923 or picking one up at the department office at the Senior/Youth Center.

Chitimacha Development Corporation

PLANNING



Progress is being made on the Tribal Geographical Information System (G.I.S.). This State of the Art, computerized terrain modeling and database system will benefit such Tribal Departments as: Chitimacha Development Corporation, Planning, Public Works and Police. The timely process of database setup and terrain identification are nearly completed as of this posting date and I will be traveling to Jackson, Mississippi on Monday 06 May to view the primary digitized mapping overlays.

This process has taken an Aerial Photography company approximately 3 months of tedious work to identify virtually all sub-structure and surface items on and around the Reservation. Once we receive these completed CD-ROMS, we can start building our information database that will consist of items such as: photographs, drainage characteristics, elevations, lot and plat layouts, future development areas, addresses, phone numbers, family physicians and any other items that we need to incorporate into the maps. In approximately 2-3 months, we should have the finalized mapping data and hardware that will be required to operate this system. This will be a extremely powerful, cost efficient and time saving tool for the Chitimacha Tribe.

In addition, the new residential roadway, Engineering and Design Phase, is underway and we should have a completed set of plans and specifications in approximately 2 months. The Army Corps of Engineers and their sub-contracted Engineering firm (Gulf Engineers & Consultants) are performing this contract for the Tribe. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 923-7215 and ask for Brian Headley.

ATTENTION SUMMER YOUTH

J.T.P.A. APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM:

- AGE:
  - SIXTEEN THRU TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE

- EDUCATION:
  - MUST BE A FULL TIME STUDENT IN EITHER A COLLEGE OR HIGH SCHOOL.
  - MUST MAINTAIN A 2.0 GRADE POINT AVERAGE EACH SEMESTER OR EACH QUARTER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM

DOCUMENTS NEEDED TO APPLY:

- DRIVER'S LICENSE OR STATE I.D.
- TRIBAL VERIFICATION
- ORIGINAL SOCIAL SECURITY CARD OR BIRTH CERTIFICATE
- ALL INCOME FOR THE HOUSEHOLD
  - LATEST CHECK STUB OR LETTER OF INCOME VERIFICATION FROM EMPLOYERS
  - NEED RECORDS OF **GROSS INCOME** NOT NET INCOME
- VERIFICATION OF FOOD STAMPS OR AN AWARD LETTER FROM THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED
- FOR MALES 18 AND OVER ONLY: DRAFT CARD OR REQUEST FOR SELECTIVE SERVICE VERIFICATION
- THE FINAL REPORT CARD FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR MUST BE TURNED IN
- CHITIMACHA TRIBAL MEMBERS WILL NEED TO BRING IN A CHECK STUB OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION PERTAINING TO THEIR PER CAPITA DISTRIBUTIONS

APPLICATIONS WILL BE TAKEN FROM APRIL 15, 1996 THROUGH APRIL 19, 1996 AND FROM APRIL 29, 1996 THROUGH MAY 6, 1996. PLEASE CALL AND MAKE AN APPOINTMENT OR STOP BY MY OFFICE.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT *BETHANY EDDLEMON AT (318) 923-4114.* PHYSICAL ADDRESS IS 312 CHITIMACHA LOOP ROAD. MONDAY THRU FRIDAY FROM 7:30 AM TILL 5:00 PM AND FRIDAYS FROM 7:30 TILL 11:30 AM.

YOU MUST BRING ALL DOCUMENTATION WITH YOU WHEN YOU COME IN TO APPLY OR WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DO THE APPLICATION.

(Continued from Page 1)
Jury Trial

On the day of trial, jurors are again randomly selected in panels of twelve (12) from all remaining jurors that were not formally exempted, for "Jury Voir dier". (Questioning of jurors by the Court and Counsel for the various parties). This process continues until the final panel of six (6) jurors has been chosen. In this matter, the jury selection was completed and the trial began with opening arguments on the 15th. Following the presentation of the case by the plaintiffs and defendants , the trial concluded with closing arguments, jury instructions and charges by the Court, jury deliberation and the jury verdict being rendered in favor of the plaintiff on April 16, 1996.

(Continued from Page 3)
"Kops Korner"

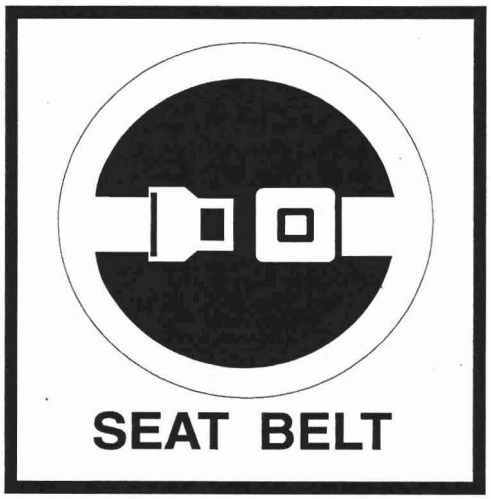
TITLE V11 SEC. 903 OPERATION OF ATV UPON ROADWAYS "EXCEPTION"

Any ATV which is duly registered with the State of Louisiana and with the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana and operated by a person who is a duly licensed operator and who has the required liability insurance may operate any ATV upon the roadways within this jurisdiction.

THE ABOVE TRIBAL LAWS PERTAINING TO ATV'S WILL BE ENFORCED BY THE CHITIMACHA POLICE DEPARTMENT AND FAILURE TO OBEY WILL RESULT IN THE ISSUANCE OF A CITATION.

Too many times officers have stopped operators of ATV's going at excessive speeds on the roadways and given them warnings. It is not the police department's intent to stop operators from enjoying their ATV's, as long as it is being done in a safe manner and in obedience with the tribal law. Parents, please explain the importance of these laws to your children and have them understand that police officers, as part of their duties, must obey and enforce the law. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call us at the police department--923-4964.

BUCKLE UP AND DRIVE SAFELY!



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Media Center

information through the Internet. If you missed the OPEN HOUSE, drop by any afternoon from 1:00 to 4:00 (except Mondays) or Saturdays from 10:00 to 1:00 and browse our collection. Classes will be held on the use of our technology from 3:00 to 4:00 each afternoon and on Saturday from 10:00 to 12:00.

Thanks to the students who helped to make this endeavor a success: Kristy Fontenot, Tasia Bernard, Toni Darden, Morgan Martin, Lacey Fontenot, Elizabeth Toups, Amy Darden, Christina Dwyer, Jenna Marcotte, Joline Dwyer and Natalie Vilcan. Also, a special thanks to Todd and Darrell Toups for their ongoing contribution to the operations of the Library/Media Center.

GED News
By: Ardith Soprano

Congratulations go out to our seven GED students who have taken and passed the GED exam. Also, we want to acknowledge three of our other GED students who are awaiting the results of their exams. We wish you luck in your endeavors.

The Franklin Adult Learning Center has announced its plans for this years GED graduation ceremony. Graduation will be held on Tuesday, May 21 at 7:30 PM at the Franklin Senior High Auditorium. This is a special night that has been planned to recognize and honor all of the students who have worked so diligently to succeed. Friends and relatives of our Graduates are invited to attend.

A SPECIAL INVITATION

The Chitimacha Scholarship Program recipients would like to extend an invitation to all tribal members and their families and friends. You are cordially invited to attend our first "Education Day Program" slated for June 8, 1996. The tentative times are 9:00 AM - 1:30; location to be arranged.

Please make every effort to attend in order to show support of our students and to participate in our information sharing program. If you have family members who are nearing the college years...this program will provide excellent information on such topics as study habits, financial aid, college choice, course information and much more. If you have younger children who may not be as aware of their heritage as you may like... this program will help to develop a pride in who we are and where we, as a Tribe, are going.

We look forward to seeing your there.

CHITIMACHA TRIBAL SCHOOL
DAILY MENU SCHEDULE
May 1996

NOTICE: All these daily menus are tentative... They may be changed depending on the inventory.

MONDAY **April 29, 1996** **Breakfast** Bagel, Turkey Ham, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Hamburger, French Fries, Salad, Fruit & Milk	**TUESDAY** **April 30, 1996** **Breakfast** Grits, Sausage Links, Juice & Milk **Lunch** White Beans & Rice, Roast, Salad, Fruit & Milk	**WEDNESDAY** **May 1, 1996** **Breakfast** Cinnamon Bun, Ham, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Pork Chops, Buttered Early Potatoes, Salad, Fruit & Milk	**THURSDAY** **May 2, 1996** **Breakfast** Cereal, Toast, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Hot Dogs, Chips, Salad, Fruit & Milk	**FRIDAY** **May 3, 1996** **Breakfast** Biscuit, Sausage, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Fried Fish, White Beans & Rice, Salad, Fruit & Milk
MONDAY **May 6, 1996** **Breakfast** Eggs. Sausage,Juice & Milk **Lunch** Sausage w/Tomato Gravy over Rice, Corn, Fruit & Milk	**TUESDAY** **May 7, 1996** **Breakfast** Danish (Assorted), Ham, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Grilled Chicken, Baked Beans, Rice Dressing, Fruit & Milk	**WEDNESDAY** **May 8, 1996** **Breakfast** Grits, Sausage, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Sloppy Joes, Mixed Vegetables, Fruit & Milk	**THURSDAY** **May 9, 1996** **Breakfast** English Muffin, Canadian Bacon, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Shrimp Fettucine, Salad Roll, Fruit & Milk	**FRIDAY** **May 10, 1996** **Breakfast** Biscuit Sausage, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Chicken Nuggets, Creamed Potatoes, Salad, Roll, Fruit & Milk
MONDAY **May 13, 1996** **Breakfast** Cereal, Toast, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Chili Fritos, Corn, Salad, Cornbread, Fruit & Milk	**TUESDAY** **May 14, 1996** **Breakfast** Cinnamon Bun, Ham, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Field Peas w/Rice, Baked Ham Fruit, Salad & Milk	**WEDNESDAY** **May 15, 1996** **Brealfast** Pancakes, Sakusage, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Pizza, Salad, Cookie, Fruit & Milk	**THURSDAY** **May 16, 1996** **Breakfast** Bagel, Canadian Bacon, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Meatloaf, Creamed Potatoes, Roll, Fruit & Milk	**FRIDAY** **May 17, 1996** **Breakfast** Biscuit, Sausage, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Hot Link Po-Boys,French Fries, Salad, Fruit & Milk
MONDAY **May 20, 1996** **Breakfast** Grits, Sausage, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Spaghetti, Sweet Peas, Roll, Fruit & Milk	**TUESDAY** **May 21, 1996** **Breakfast** Ham & Cheese Buddies, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Chicken, Spaghetti w/Cheese, Salad, Fruit & Milk	**WEDNESDAY** **May 22, 1996** **Breakfast** Egg, Bacon, Toast, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Ham Po-Boy, Salad, Fruit & Milk	**THURSDAY** **May 23, 1996** **Breakfast** Biscuit, Sausage, Juice & Milk **Lunch** Grilled Hamburger, Chips, Salad, Fruit & Milk	**Pick Up Report Cards** **School's Out**

March 29, 1996 - "National Teacher Appreciation Day"

Thanks to all of the Faculty for their unselfish dedication towards education.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Call Debbie @ 318 923-4973 to place an Ad

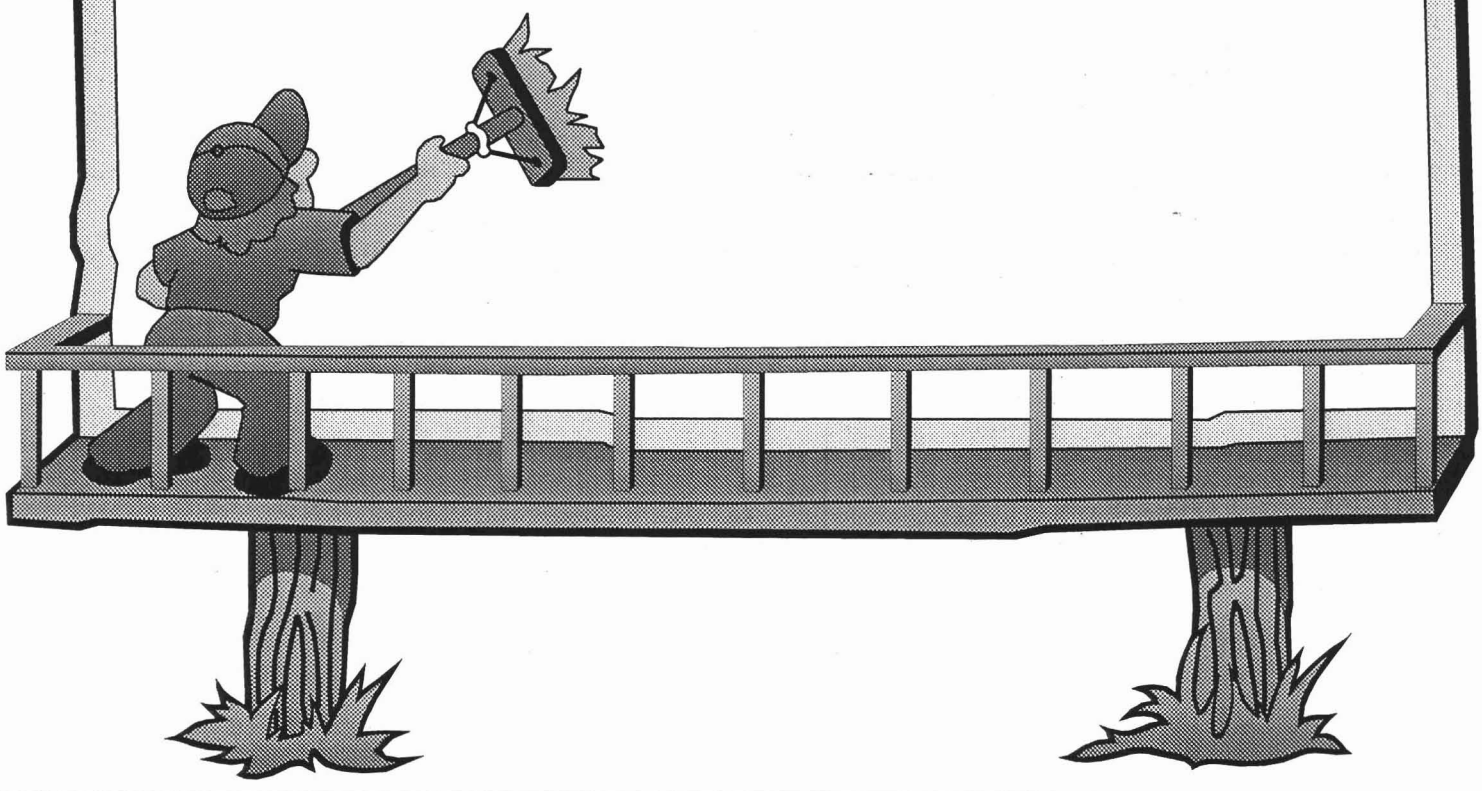
I would like to give thanks to Lonnie Martin and his crew (Brent, Mike and Pat) and also to the Fire Department & water plant personnel for the speedy work they have done in getting the water back to our homes and to the Casino. I know that they got little rest during this crisis.

Thanks,
Josie M. Hurst

FOR SALE
Living Room Furniture
1 - green sofa, love seat and chair (Matching Set)
1 - green recliner
[Furniture is 2 ½ years old, in great condition.]
Asking $500 for all.
For more information:
Call 923-7905 and leave a message.

REWARD
Offered to person who may have witnessed the vandalism to my mail box on the night of April 12, 1996

Ester Vilcan



Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 661
Charenton LA 70523